Discharge of the Effluents of the Kedia Distillery into Kharoon River

7085. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Indian Express" dated the 25th April, 1995, under the caption, "Turning the river of life into a river of curse";

(b) if so, how the effluents of the Kedia Distillery were discharged into the river Kharoon, causing colossal loss of crop and a number of serious ailments among the people;

(c) the action taken against the Kedia Distillery;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the victims; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if no compensation has been given, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH). (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. According to Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, the effluents of Kedia Distillery were discharged into the river Kharoon due to accidental breach of lagoons in which primary treated waste water was stored.

(c) Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board has directed the industry to close down the operations and also to take the following actions:

(i) To put up temporary bunds on the Khapri Nalla to check the flow of waste water.

(ii) To pump the effluent from the Khapri Nalla to the nearby 40 acres land acquired by the unit recently, so that no discharge is allowed to pass into the river Kharoon.

(iii) To repair the lagoon bund at the breached sections.

(iv) To install pumps to dispose of the effluents to the land belonging to the industry.

(d) and (e) No compensation has been paid to the victims sofar. However, a case has been filed in the Court of Additional District Judge, Raipur, for compensation of Rs. 2,50,600.

Vehicular Pollution Surveys

7086. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether vehicular pollution surveys have been conducted in seven cities in India by the Central Pollution Control Board; and

(b) if so, what are the findings of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND *FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The* Central Pollution Control Board has carried out a major survey during 1988-89 on vehicular pollution in 12 major cities of the country. These are; Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore, Madras, Pune, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jaipur, Nagpur and Ahmedabad.

(b) The major findings of the survey are given below :

(i) Vehicular population growth, particularly in terms of personalised transport, is increasing dramatically in all major cities of the country.

(ii) The major contribution of the pollution load (about 50 to 60%) to the total air pollution load in the major cities is due to vehicles and to a lesser extent due to air polluting industries and other sources such as fossil fuel burning for cooking and heating purposes.

(iii) Contribution of various categories of vehicles to air pollution is as follows :

— Two and three wheelers and passenger cars contribute equally to carbon monoxide addition to the atmosphere.

— Two and three wheelers contribute about 6 times the hydrocrbon addition to the atmosphere as compared to passenger cars and 3-5 times compared to commercial diesel vehicles.